

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Official Action mailed **April 8, 2004**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-36. Claims 1-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Batty (USPN 6,223,212, hereinafter "Batty") in view of Shen ("Access Control for Collaborative Environments," hereinafter "Shen").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 13, and 25 were rejected as being unpatentable over Batty in view of Shen. Applicant respectfully points out that the combined system of Batty and Shen is directed to controlling access rights in a collaborative environment based upon predetermined protection states (see Shen, section 5.2).

In contrast, the present invention grants permission to execute a specific command received from a remote user based on an approval entered by the user of the local computer system at run-time (see page10, lines 4-23 of the instant application). There is nothing within Batty or Shen, either separately or in concert, which suggests granting permission to execute a specific command received from a remote user based on an approval entered by the user of the local computer system at run-time.

The prior art does not suggest (1) displaying a command received from a remote user, (2) allowing a local user to approve the command, and then (3) allowing the command to execute on the local computer system if the local user approves of the command received from the remote user.

Note that approving or disapproving a specific command ahead of time is does not provide the same flexibility as allowing a local user to approve or disapprove of a command received from a remote user at run-time. For example, at run-time, the local user may only allow the remote user to read data from the local computer system when the data becomes relevant to an ongoing telephone

discussion between the remote user and the local user, and may otherwise not allow the remote user to read the data. This type of flexibility cannot be provided by a system that establishes approvals for specific commands ahead of time.

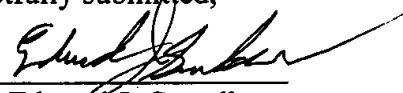
Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 13, and 25 to clarify that the present invention grants permission to execute a specific command received from a remote user based on an approval entered by the user of the local computer system at run-time. These amendments find support on page10, lines 4-23 of the instant application.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 13, and 25 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-12, which depend upon claim 1, claims 14-24, which depend upon claim 13, and claims 26-36, which depend upon claim 25 are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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